

19. (New) The adhesive or binder according to Claim 17, wherein the polyvinyl alcohol is partially hydrolyzed.

20. (New) The adhesive or binder according to Claim 16, wherein said crosslinking functionality is provided by a self-crosslinking monomer selected from the group of N-methylol acrylamide, N-methylol methacrylamide and C1 to C4 ethers thereof.

21. (New) A filter comprising a filter substrate further comprising an emulsion polymer, which includes

- a) at least 15 weight percent of nitrogen-containing monomers;
- b) crosslinking functionality; and
- c) a protective colloid.

22. (New) The filter according to Claim 21, wherein the protective colloid is a polyvinyl alcohol.

23. (New) The filter according to Claim 22, wherein the polyvinyl alcohol is fully hydrolyzed.

24. (New) The filter according to Claim 22, wherein the polyvinyl alcohol is partially hydrolyzed.

25. (New) The filter according to Claim 21, wherein said crosslinking functionality is provided by a self-crosslinking monomer selected from the group of N-methylol acrylamide, N-methylol methacrylamide and C1 to C4 ethers thereof.

26. (New) A filter according to Claim 21, wherein said emulsion polymer is substantially devoid of phenolics.

27. (New) The filter according to Claim 26, wherein the protective colloid is a polyvinyl alcohol.

28. (New) The filter according to Claim 27, wherein the polyvinyl alcohol is fully hydrolyzed.

29. (New) The filter according to Claim 27, wherein the polyvinyl alcohol is partially hydrolyzed.

30. (New) The filter according to Claim 26, wherein said crosslinking functionality is provided by a self-crosslinking monomer selected from the group of N-methylol acrylamide, N-methylol methacrylamide and C1 to C4 ethers thereof.